

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2, 6-8, 10-12, 16 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A structural sandwich plate member comprising:

first and second outer plates;

a core of ~~plastics or polymer material~~ compact polyurethane elastomer injected between the first and second outer metal plates and bonded to said first and second outer metal plates with sufficient bond strength to transfer shear forces therebetween, wherein the bond strength is greater than 3 MPa; and

a plurality of lightweight forms within the core, wherein said forms ~~do not tessellate in a plane parallel to said outer metal layers and have principal dimensions in the range of from 20 to 200% of~~ are hollow polypropylene spheres with a solid skin arranged in a single layer and have a diameter equal to the distance between said first and second outer metal layers.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Withdrawn) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein said lightweight forms are arranged in multiple layers.

4. (Withdrawn) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 3 further comprising an interlayer between two of said multiple layers of forms.

5. (Withdrawn) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 3 wherein the forms of one layer directly overlie the forms of the layer below so that there are parts of the core material extending directly between the outer plates.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein said forms have a diameter greater than or equal to 20mm and less than or equal to 100mm.

10-12. (Canceled)

13. (Withdrawn) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein said forms have a plurality of protrusions so as to increase the spacing between them, and hence the proportion of the core cavity occupied by core material.

14. (Previously Presented) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein said forms are filled with an inert gas, a fire retardant substance, a thermal or acoustic insulating fluid or a partial vacuum.

15. (Withdrawn) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 further comprising a mesh, e.g. of wire, to assist the placing of the forms and space them apart from each other and/or from the outer plates.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein said outer plates have a thickness greater than or equal to 0.5mm and less than or equal to 20mm.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a structural sandwich plate member comprising the steps of:

providing first and second outer metal plates in a spaced-apart relationship and a plurality of lightweight forms within the space between said plates, wherein said forms ~~do not tessellate in a plane parallel to said outer metal layers and have principal dimensions in the range of from 20~~

~~to 200% of~~ are hollow polypropylene spheres with a solid skin arranged in a single layer and have a diameter equal to the distance between said plates;

injecting uncured ~~plastics or polymer~~ polyurethane elastomer material to fill the space defined between said first and second ~~outer~~ metal plates and around said plurality of forms; and

allowing said ~~plastics or polymer~~ polyurethane elastomer material to cure to ~~bond~~ form a compact material bonding said outer plates together with sufficient strength to transfer shear forces therebetween.